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Title: To Kill The Hate: An Analysis of Racism over the last century in American Literature

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Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter 1.1: Rationale

In a society where racism is rife, the marginalised races are constantly battling for their rightful place in humanity. A comparative analysis of the books, *To Kill A Mockingbird* and *The Hate U Give* brings to the fore that systemic racism against the blacks and people of colour is still prevalent in America continues to exist a century after the first book *To Kill a Mockingbird* was published. Its continued practice remains a stumbling block to achieving equality for the blacks. This paper seeks to analyse the difficulties they face and the reasons for them despite the fact that there is state legislation to curb racism. Slavery in USA was abolished in 1865, and resistance groups such as Black Lives Matter have a greater voice today than civil rights movements had in the past. Yet, in the midst of all these developments, racism is ever present.

To Kill A Mockingbird and *The Hate U Give* show that while the bad sides of humans are highlighted through social inequality, there is also a good side to them. The ideas portrayed in *To Kill A Mockingbird* bring about contemplation to the different ways a character might behave in two similar situations. The fact that hatred and prejudice co-exists with love and affection in our everyday lives, it gives purpose for humankind to reflect on the miscibility of good and evil. Furthermore, this research allows society to understand that certain choices, which may be deemed as a socially acceptable action, are actually not really ethical and should not be

practiced, thus allowing people to work on their flaws and strive for a better future. As such, *To Kill A Mockingbird* and *The Hate U Give* are both felicitous books to be analysed and compared.

Chapter 1.2: Research Questions

1. How do *To Kill A Mockingbird* and *The Hate U Give*, which are written half a century apart, highlight the continued practice of social injustice against the blacks?
2. What does Scout's and Starr's psychological development throughout the events in the novel tell us about the implications of systemic racism against the Blacks with reference to *To Kill A Mockingbird* and *The Hate U Give*? (Treadwell, 2020)
3. In what ways is the coexistence of good and evil in *To Kill A Mockingbird* and *The Hate U Give* depicted in the characters in their respective books?

Chapter 1.3: Thesis Statement

As seen from the books *To Kill A Mockingbird* and *The Hate U Give*, racism has been present in American literature since the past century and even further, highlighting the continued practice of racism and social injustice against the blacks by white supremacists in America over the last century, with social stratification being omnipresent, despite the fact that the blacks have

made significant progress in their quest for equal rights. The black characters portrayed attempt to push back against harmful stereotypical ideas about them establishes a counter-narrative to these perceptions.

At the same time, while portraying the vile nature of some humans, the books show an inherent goodness in people too. This emphasises the significance of the very coexistence of good and evil not only in the characters in the two books, but also in the real world.

Chapter 1.4: Scope Of Research

This research paper will encapsulate two prominent themes portrayed in the book, Social Inequality and the Coexistence of Good and Evil. The ideas and quotes provided will be procured from the original version of *To Kill A Mockingbird* (1960) and *The Hate U Give* (2015). I will be analysing the setting and character of the stories among other things, and would be paying special attention to the two main characters from the two books, Scout Finch , and Starr Carter.

The analysis will not cover content from the film adaptation of *To Kill A Mockingbird* and *The Hate U Give*. This is so as the ideas portrayed in the alternative film media is slightly different from the original text itself, and has various other aspects to analyse, especially the visual and auditory aspect of it since it is a movie. Therefore, I have excluded these as they may

impede the progression of my research paper, and cause unnecessary misunderstanding of certain ideas due to conflicting content from different sources.

Chapter 1.5: Limitations

As I am focusing on the original books, I would regrettably not be able to explore the alternative ideas portrayed in the movie adaptation of the books. The movie covers visual aspects of the plot, and the exclusion of it may limit my analysis.

Another limitation will be the fact that *To Kill A Mockingbird* and *The Hate U Give* portrays racial discrimination between mostly, if not only, two races: the Whites and the Blacks. As such, I will be discussing the racist manner in which the Blacks are treated and their relationship with the Whites, and not with other races. Furthermore, two books are used in this research. This might pose a slight issue, as some critics may argue that the ideas presented are not uniform through the years as they are nearly half a century apart, and thus I may be assuming the development of events throughout the years. However, the fact that racial discrimination persists in literature and in society is undeniable, and thus this my supposed assumption is actually understandable.

The two books give us a clear idea of the difficulties faced by the blacks in the last 90 years or so because white Americans refuse to accept them as their equals and counterparts. The theories aim to explain possible reasons for this mentality and behaviour. However, they may not

always provide a comprehensive analysis of human behaviour in all situations as human behaviour is unpredictable. Furthermore, Critical Race Theory has been highly controversial in the eyes of many as it seems to disapprove of liberalism, but seems to be unable to comprehend liberalism's real meaning while Kantian Deontological Ethics is seen as a theory that is too rigid and inflexible, causing a conflicting set of morals. Yet I have chosen to work with these theories, as they provide the most suitable lens for me to examine the coexistence of good and evil and social injustice.

Chapter 2: Literature Review

To Kill A Mockingbird and *The Hate U Give* conveys many paramount messages underlying it and have sparked a myriad of conversations amongst professors, researchers, scholars and more. Therefore, I will be using the lens of Critical Race Theory, and Kantian Ethics to examine the themes of Social Inequality and the coexistence of good and evil respectively.

Chapter 2.1: Critical Race Theory

The Critical Race Theory (CRT) is a movement of “a collection of activists and scholars engaged in studying and transforming the relationship among race, racism, and power.” (Delgado, 2017). This movement was founded in the 1970s, and gained traction since then. It works towards the elimination of oppression in all forms (race, class, gender) and issues a challenge to hierarchy itself. However, “Unlike traditional civil rights discourse, which stresses incrementalism and step by-step progress, critical race theory questions the very foundations of the liberal order, including equality theory, legal reasoning, Enlightenment rationalism, and neutral principles of constitutional law.” (Delgado, 2017).

In layman terms, the law and legal institutions in the United States are inherently racist and function in a way to create social inequality between the whites and non-whites, especially African Americans. Legal institutions assure the society that they are “colour-blind”. While trying their best to be so, many judges are consciously or unconsciously affected by the colour of

the accused, witness, and so on, thus impairing their supposed fair judgement. According to this theory, even though neutrality is aimed to be maintained, the system has always worked to the disadvantage of people of color and it seems to persist. People of color, especially the Blacks, face a higher likelihood of being convicted, to serve more time, to suffer arbitrary arrest and deprivation of liberty and property. A pervasive but unconscious racism infects the legal system. As such, legal scholarship as well is racially situated, such that there is a "black" and a "white" view on legal issues. (Litowitz, 1999, pp. 505-506). Thus, the Blacks see the world differently where dominant groups, referring to the mainstream, undiscriminated party, cannot due to their different treatment.

Ultimately, this theory suggests that racism exists in our everyday lives, such as in our food, clothing, and most importantly in our unconsciousness, making it endemic in American society.

Chapter 2.1.1: Relevance to Racism in the Books

This theory has explicit relations with social injustice, thus proving effective in exploring racism in these two books. It serves as a basis of comparison between the stories too. Lois Tyson has defined racism as such “Racism refers to the unequal power relations that grow from the sociopolitical domination of one race by another and that result in systematic discriminatory practices (for example, segregation, domination, and persecution)” (1998, p. 360). Basically, racism refers to a particular race putting itself in a more superior light, exerting control over the less dominant race that would result in harmful practices that derogate and trivialise the

significance of other races. This sense of superiority stems from the heaping of authority across various fields, mainly the social and political field. The Critical Race Theory elaborates on the seeming racist way in which these legal institutions, which is clearly present in both books.

Both books point out the superiority most of the White people exert over the Black community. The reason for doing so is due to the fact that the Whites consider themselves to be superior in every way compared to the Blacks, and thus exert their authority in various ways they wish to, even if it means going against the deemed ethical approach. Authors such as Rezazade and Zohdi have further highlighted the fact that the events in the book are a result of a “fanatic and racist society” (2016, p. 49). We can see from the books that legal institutions are not practicing equality, but are instead seen to be more lenient towards crimes by the Whites, turning a blind eye towards police brutality, such as in *The Hate U Give*.

Chapter 2.2: Kantian Ethics

Kantian Ethics was founded by Immanuel Kant, an 18th century German philosopher. It is a renowned ethical theory formulated in the basic spirit of Kant, and his insights in moral philosophy. He believes that actions are judged to be moral based on the fulfilment of its duty. There is an unconditional moral obligation which must be strictly adhered to in all situations and is not dependent on a person's inclination or purpose. This was referred to as the Categorical Imperative.

The first formulation, Formula of Universal Law writes “Act only in accordance with that

maxim through which you at the same time can will that it become a universal law” (Kant, 2004) . This means that one should only behave in a way that when the action performed is normalised, the whole world would still be able to function. Put simply, we should follow rules of behaviors that we can apply universally to everyone. A common analogy would be the action of stealing. If everyone is stealing things, then there would be no longer any private property left behind, which would mean that there would be nothing left behind to steal, thus logically negating itself. As such, according to the Formula of Universal Law, stealing is an immoral action, and is not permitted.

The second formulation, Formula of Humanity writes, “Act in such a way that you treat humanity, whether in your own person or in the person of another, always at the same time as an end and never simply as a means” (Kant, 2004) . This means that one should never carry out actions on themselves or on any other person to achieve a further purpose. As such, actions like suicide is strictly forbidden. This is so as the action of suicide is used as a means to an end, which is “death” in this case, and thus suicide is seen to be a destructive, thus immoral action. To add on, “Each human being, as rationally self-governing according to universally valid standards, has dignity or absolute worth (Wood 2008, p. 3).” This further means there is the existence of any living being that has its own unique worth that does not need to be proved through actions, and is invaluable.

Chapter 2.2.1: Relevance to Morals in the Books

The books have shown the world that good and evil coexist together, sometimes harmoniously, sometimes violently, through the vivid portrayal of the good side and bad side of many characters in the story. The reason for such differing behaviour would likely be linked to the beliefs of morals present in the society then, thus validating their actions in their eyes. Hence, the theme of the existence of good and evil is extremely prevalent in the books. Plus, the books show us that doing good is not as plain as it seems, and that it has to be processed through carefully, tailoring it to everyone's unique needs. So, the debate about morals goes on in these two books.

Chapter 3: Methodology

The Critical Race Theory will be used to examine racial injustice in the books *To Kill A Mockingbird* and *The Hate U Give*. More specifically, I will be using Delgado's definition of the Critical Race Theory, as he is the main founder of this movement. Focus on the Critical Race Theory will be placed on the fact that legal institutions, especially in America, function in an inherently racist manner. This would be especially helpful as both books involve the racist dealings of the judicial court.

As mentioned above, I will be using Kantian Ethics to determine the goodness and evil that the character possesses in the books. I will be paying close attention to both of the formulations above. They will be used to analyse if the actions are moral or immoral, and if the character carried out these actions with the intent or if it was unintentional.

This paper seeks to compare racism in America over a century apart. Therefore, I will be contrasting the ways in which the events of injustice unfolded in both *To Kill A Mockingbird* and *The Hate U Give*, and more particularly what the reaction was to the event. This includes the way the public felt and acted, and also the course of action which the government legislation chose. This would highlight the developments of the fight for equal rights among different racial groups.

Chapter 4: Discussion and Analysis

Chapter 4.1: Segregation of Racial Class

Both of these books, *To Kill A Mockingbird* and *The Hate U Give*, make it clear that the Whites and Blacks have different social status. This can be seen in their conditions of residence, shedding light on the socio-economic development of the races. In *To Kill A Mockingbird*, the Whites enjoy life in the centre of town with respectable houses, while the Blacks stay at the outskirts of the town, close to the dumpster and are neighboured by a forest. In *The Hate U Give*, the Whites are living in a clean environment with much better infrastructure. In contrast to the nice environment, the Blacks stay in a more run down neighbourhood and are commonly labelled terms such as “the Hood”. They live in a war ridden neighbourhood, where gang clashes are commonplace, causing constant surveillance on the Blacks. Even after many years, social stratification remains omnipresent in American society. This is a social indicator that the differing social status between races still persists throughout some time. The different races avoid each other as much as possible to prevent possible conflicts. They do not share the same public facilities too and hardly mix, and the Blacks seem to be more underprivileged with less consideration for them.

Chapter 4.1.1: Social Injustice in Legislations

Racism in both books are rife. While there may be differences in the kind of racism dealt with, they share one similarity: these events are fueled by the choice of the government legislation.

A significant event where racism is practiced by the government legislation in *To Kill A Mockingbird* is when the judicial court chose to charge Tom Robinson, who is suspected for raping a white girl called Mayella Ewell. In the court hearing, Atticus Finch, who is the lawyer defending Tom, has testified to the panel of judges that Tom could not have possibly committed the crime due to his partial handicap, with his left arm is significantly shorter and weaker than his right arm, rendering him unable to assault Mayella with his left arm, which is conclusive of Tom Robinson's innocent. His innocence is further proved by his believable account and Mayella's flickering stance. This injustice is accentuated by Tom Robinson's death in prison. He allegedly attempted to escape to avoid execution for a crime he did not commit, and the police shot him "seventeen times" in the back. As a result, he died from the injuries sustained. The excessive gunshots prove that there certainly is injustice dealt towards the Blacks, and the legal system is unforgiving of the Blacks, no matter how right they may be.

Racism is present in the functioning of the government in *The Hate U Give* too. In the beginning of the story, on a way home from a summer party, Starr and Kahlil were talking and catching up on their childhood past. Just then, they were pulled over by a police officer called Brian Cruise. The police confronted them and suspected Kahlil of participation in illegal activities, especially since there was a shooting close-by. This event unfolded and tensions rose. Finally, as Khalil turned his back round to check on Starr, he was fatally shot by the police

officer and was killed on the spot. Khalil died tragically in Starr's arms. While Khalil did deal drugs, he was not in possession of any drugs at the time. Officer Brian Cruise was still in the wrong, as he presumed Khalil's drug-dealer identity based on his race and dress code. It was revealed later on that he opened fire because he saw that Kahlil turned his back on him, and was terribly afraid for his own safety, thinking that Kahlil was getting ready to shoot him. These are more stereotypes that many people have of black of people: that the Blacks are threatening and dangerous, leading to excessive police violence. When Kahlil's death and the injustice he suffered finally saw the light of day, there certainly was uprising, especially among the Black community as they rally support for Kahlil and bring justice to him. After extensive court hearings and several protests, the court ultimately made the decision to acquit him of murder. This illustrates the flawed legal system, and their failure to be colour blind and practice true equality. Their practices are still influenced by race, and would treat Blacks with more severity while lightening the mistakes of the Whites.

In tandem with these events, the Critical Race Theory similarly suggests that American government legislation is inherently racist and functions in a way to keep the Whites at the top of the society. The laws seem to exploit the Black and prioritise the Whites. To quote the words of Delgado and Stefanie, they have come up with a term "sometimes called interest convergence or material determinism" (Delgado, 2017, p.24). It refers to the practice of racism being preferred by the benefiting parties, which in this case are the Whites, as they are the majority and stand to benefit from this materially. It is further elaborated that the elite White class would gain materially, while the White working-class would gain physically. This would result in little motivation for the majority of the society to eradicate racism, since it does not do them harm.

Linking this back to the topic, the legal system would tend to have certain racist practices, either done intentionally or unintentionally due to accustomasiation, resulting in the Blacks suffering from deprived legal care and protection.

Chapter 4.1.2: Psychological development

With the key events aforementioned, we will look at the traumatising impacts of racism on the main characters in both books and understand in general the tangible and intangible ramifications of racist practices.

Scout, the narrator in *To Kill A Mockingbird*, together with her brother, Jem, experienced life-changing events. She highlights the development of Jem as the events unfolded, starting from the time when they were bullied for having a father that defends Black people, to the time where Tom Robinson is pronounced dead. It is truly heartbreaking to see them, especially Jem, cry and throw tantrums at the news of Tom Robinson being charged with rape, and would face execution despite his innocence. Jem becomes jaded in mankind, and constantly spends time either locked up, or away from home, which is in stark contrast to the cheerful child he was before the incident. Scout is impacted too, as she feels upset, confused and worried, and ponders over the meaning of race. There is something worth noting here. Interestingly enough, they are white but do not feel inclined to support Mayella, the alleged white victim. Instead, they elicit pity for Tom and hope for his acquittal. As a result, their innate ideals of fairness are being questioned, as they wonder why it is that fairness is not practiced in the court. Racism can have

profound impacts that impacts everyone directly and indirectly too, scarring an individual and would cause society to be unstable.

There are also obvious psychological impacts of racism in *The Hate U Give*. Starr is unable to comprehend Khalil's death at first as the death of her beloved long-time childhood friend is too sudden. Then, her behavior towards her family and close friends changes, having constant breakdowns. She is stuck in a dilemma, whether to reveal to her white friends and white boyfriend, Chris, about the injustice Khalil suffered. Starr reveals that her White counterparts, no matter how close they may be, they would not be able to understand racism and the injustice behind Khalil's death, thus separating their worlds. This hard decision unfolds into many more tumultuous events, finally allowing Starr to comprehend the injustice Khalil suffered and speak out bravely against police brutality and more importantly, the racist legal system that fails to practice equality.

From all their experiences, we can see how getting directly engaged in racism, just like Starr's case, indirectly, just like Scout's case, impacts one's psyche, influencing their mannerisms which could cause their mental health to take a turn for the worse too. Racism is a key contributing factor in the "onset of disease". It is responsible for increasing disparities in physical and mental health among Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) too (Lewslley, 2020). The act of discrimination against race places one in a stressful environment. It devalues the victim and comprises one's quality of life, as he would adopt a more pessimistic outlook on life. He would constantly have to attempt to prove his worth too, which may be met with great resistance. This would be unhealthy for his or her development, leading to other more tangible

problems such as loss of sleep, public breakdowns, mistrust of people and more. It certainly affects bystanders too, as they witness these cruel acts and would reflect on the extent of equality truly present in the society. This causes sentiments of sorrow to form, as others would hope that the victims did not have to go through such pains. At the same time, they would become worried that they or their family might face similar discriminatory acts.

Chapter 4.2: Coexistence of Good and Evil

Good and evil are commonly discussed as the antithesis of each other, and are strictly immiscible. Yet, the portrayal of the characters in the books prove that characters make both good and bad choices, and have a certain amount of goodwill and evil inside of them too. In racism, we see the best and worst of people, just like in the books. Good and evil constantly overlap. Ultimately, it is how people try to the best of their extent to exemplify their good and use their goodwill to save people that is the most important. As such, there is much meaning in looking at the moral principles of the characters, thus explaining their choices, no matter good or bad. This inquiry would take us to new depths, and we rationally consider the reasons for racism being practiced. By putting ourselves in the shoes of the character while maintaining an objective perspective, we will understand if one is harbouring pure ill-intent when being racist, or if one is using his own set of morals that may be controversial, and is genuinely trying to achieve what he thinks is the best outcome.

Chapter 4.2.1: Kantian Ethics in *To Kill A Mockingbird*

There are many decisions made in *To Kill A Mockingbird* by different characters that are based on either goodwill or ill will. Atticus is a character that conducts himself in a high moral tone, inculcating good values in Jem and Scout after their mother has passed away. He fights for what is truly good for society regardless of hardship. When he chose to take on the role as a lawyer defending Tom Robinson, a black man, he was aware of the danger that he put him and his family in. This is especially so since the society then was highly anti-semitic. Indeed, Atticus faced many strained relationships, due to the community largely feeling that defending a person of colour was shameful. Still, Atticus' altruistic behaviour led him to soldier on and battle for Tom Robinson's innocence. Here, Tom Robinson is the "Mockingbird", being weak and powerless. He is thus taken advantage of. At the end of the text, when it is found out that Boo Radley is the one who unintentionally murdered Bob Ewell in a brawl in an attempt to save Jem, Atticus chooses not to reveal Boo's deed. While the majority might think that it is a great thing for the public to learn about Boo's heroic deed, upon closer inspection, it is harming another mockingbird too. Boo is highly reclusive and spends nearly all his time at home, and would thus be frightened by all the sudden attention. Atticus' decision is for the best, since it protects everyone's interest. On the other hand, Bob and Mayella Ewell's decision to malign Tom Robinson and take advantage of his superior position as a white man in society is purely evil, as

they bring great harm to Tom instead of repaying him with their kindness. Their accusation of rape has even resulted in Tom's death, making them big sinners.

According to the the Universal Law, which supports Atticus' actions, when an act of protecting the weak is normalized, the world would become a much better place since the rights of everyone are considered and the weak finally are able to have a more stable position in society. Atticus' inspirational act of doing what's right, not convenient, propagates love in the society and empowers the weak with a voice. As such, his moral character ensures the presence of goodness in the society. In contrast to this, Bob and Mayella Ewell's decisions are considered highly immoral in the eyes of Kantian Ethics. According to the Universal Law, the malevolent act of accusing a black person of a serious crime which he never committed is uncondonable. If everyone starts taking advantage of their race superiority and defaming more underprivileged people, the society will be in a chaotic state. This state of anarchy will be due to the false claims made, and would bear discrimination so deep that it would invariably separate people of different races and erode trust present. This shows us that there is evil too. In fact, good and evil must be simultaneously present for us to see both of them clearly.

Chapter 4.2.2: Kantian Ethics in *The Hate U Give*

The Book *The Hate U Give* is more contemporary, but still highlights the presence of good and bad. Starr chooses to speak up against legislative racism. Her bravery comes after many life-changing events, such as the confrontation about the death of Kahlil by her close friend, Kenya, disappointing court rulings, and the poor and inaccurate image the the media has

painted of Khalil. After great reflection, with much support from her loved ones, Starr decides to right the wrong that Khalil suffered by attending a national news interview. Afterwards, she musters the courage to defeat her inner demons and even leads a protest to demand for change. Conversely, we see the evil of the judicial system here, which prioritised the rights of White people. As mentioned above, the court had knew that Khalil's death was unjustified. Only after several rounds of hearings and even more public attention, did the court change its initial decision of not indicting him to charge him with misuse of authority which Starr felt was too light a punishment. This shows us that racism is still present inside of the court, where fair rulings should be made regardless of race.

Kantian Ethics suggests in the Second Formula of Humanity that Starr's decision to battle for Khalil is virtuous. She does so for the sole good of helping her race to receive fairer treatment in the world towards a society that is inclusive of all. This would be a big step in making people less discriminatory, breeding harmonious relationships. Yet, there might still be a downside to her decision, as it ultimately breaks out into a riot, which is morally and socially wrong, albeit it fuelled by a wholesome cause. On the other hand, Kantian Ethics aligns with the view that the actions of the legal system are not ethical. The court chooses to acquit the police officer not for justice, but to serve an ulterior motive of defending the White race. In this process, they show that they do not see the Blacks on the same level as their own race, proving the inequality present in their biased decision.

Now, I will be looking at a case where good and evil become hard to separate. Here, discussions are more complex. I will be looking at a new concept called Double-effect reasoning.

It suggests that the “good we do results in evil [while] the evil we avoid prevents the realization of some good”. (Cavanaugh, 2006) In this case, I am looking at the former concept, that our desire to serve some good results in adverse consequences. When Officer Brian Cruise chose to trigger the gun, he did not do it out of complete maliciousness. It was later brought up in the book that he was trying to serve his duty as a police officer, to protect the community by bringing criminals to justice. He was “terribly afraid” that Khalil was going to attack him together with Starr. There is some truth to his possibly insincere account, which we must consider to come to a rational conclusion. This is not to say he is right. Of course, he is at great fault, for acting on presumed stereotypes of the Black race, that they are violent and dangerous. At that time, he was dealing with a shooting incident that just occurred, which gives some reason for him to be on high alert, and coupled with anxiousness, resulting in him not thinking straight and in the fatal shooting. This blurs the lines between good and evil, proving that they coexist with each other and are not as separated as we make them out to be.

Chapter 4.3: Racism throughout a Century

The civil rights discourse is gaining traction with the emergence of more free speech. In *To Kill A Mockingbird*, the characters are more reserved and stick to more conventional ideals of race. Both races feel that The Whites are superior over the Blacks, and thus the Whites call the shots, while the Blacks will submissively obey. It is clear that they do not see each other on the same level. Their ideas of morality justify decisions to make the Black scapegoats and disparity in treatment. While some of them may find the racist treatment unacceptable, people generally are unwilling to voice out and stick to traditional conventions of race. This makes inequality

rampant, but widely accepted. In *The Hate U Give*, decades have passed and people of colour, being oppressed, become much more vocal about racism, just as they do with other issues such as gender inequality. In the face of racism, people become braver and recognise the importance of voicing out. People are giving a voice to the voiceless, and are curating a more equal and fair society for all. The White's morality has become more just, as they gradually accept the merit of the Black and recognise their significance too.

Chapter 5: Conclusion

As this paper is coming to its end, I will be concluding my research and discussion. American society has come a long way, and its literature is reflective of the novel and laudable developments for equality and justice through the years.. As prominent civil right leaders have their name printed in History books for generations to study, fatal and heartbreaking events like racial shootings occasionally make their way to the top news. These books have given us great insight into the amazing change brought about by the relentless work of the characters and their brave fight for equality. Yet, there is still room for development, as we readjust our views on morality and keep a conscious effort to strive towards commensuration. This way, we can achieve a society that has equal opportunities for all, where everyone is accepted and loved.

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